

GRAUSTARK

#106

1965F, 1965Q, 1966E

15 October 1966

1965F "Spring 1908"

ITALIANS PREPARE TO RESIST
BIG FRENCH EASTWARD DRIVE

ENGLAND (Peck): A St.P S RUSSIAN A Mos;
A Liv-War; A Fin-Swe; F Den-Bal;
F North Sea-Eng; F North Africa-Tun;
F Wes S F North Africa-Tun.

FRANCE (Brannan): A Ruh-Kie; A Bel-Hol;
A Bre-Pic; A Par-Bur; A Por holds;
A Spa-Gas; A Mar-Pie; A Tyr-Boh;
A Sil-Pau.

ITALY (Koning): F Tyr S TURKISH F Adu-
Ion; A Rom-Tus; A Apu-Ven; A Tri-Tyr;
A Vie S A Tri-Tyr; A Nap holds.

AUSTRIA-HUNGARY (von Metzke): A Gre-Alb;
F Ion S ITALIAN F Tyr-Tun.

RUSSIA (D. Smith): A Gal-Ukr; A Mos S
A Gal-Ukr.

TURKEY (Wells): F Adu-Ion; A Sef Bud;
A Por-Gal; A Ugr S A Rom-Gal; A Sev S
A Ukr; F Bla-Con; F Aeg-Gre; A Bul
S F Aeg-Gre.

Underlined moves are not possible.
The Russian army in Galicia retreats to
Silesia. The Austro-Hungarian fleet in
the Ionian Sea must retreat to either
Apulia, the Aegean Sea, or the Eastern
Mediterranean. The Austro-Hungarian
player must send in this retreat with
his "Fall 1908" moves. Other players
may make their "Fall 1908" moves contin-
gent upon the direction of the Austro-
Hungarian retreat. The deadline for
"Fall 1908" moves is NOON, SATURDAY 29
OCTOBER 1966. The deadline for "Winter
1908" moves is NOON, SATURDAY 5 NOVEMBER
1966.

VIENNA (11 May 1908): The faltering
Austrian regime, exiled from this city
but still maintaining an underground gov-
ernment in the sewage tunnels of the Dan-
ube, was strongly bolstered in recent
days by the influx of a large sum of cur-

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1965Q

"Spring 1909"

GERMANS OUTFLANK AUSTRIA IN THE EAST

The German build in "Winter 1908"
was incorrectly reported as "A Ber" in-
stead of "A Kie". Only Kiel had been
open for a German build.

ENGLAND (Koning): A Edi-St.P; F Norwegian
Sea & F Bar C A Edi-St.P; A Mos-Ukr;
A Liv-Mos; F Norway holds.

FRANCE (Whalen): A Por-Spa(s.c.); A Mar-
Bur; A Gae-Par.

GERMANY (J. Smythe): A War-Gal; A Sil S
A War-Gal; A Ber-Mun; A Kie-Ruh;
A Mun-Bur; A Par-Gas; A Bre S A Par-
Gas; F Mid-Spa(s.c.); F Eng-Mid;
F North Sea-Eng.

ITALY (Berman): A Ven S GERMAN A Mun-Tyr;
A Apu-Rom; F Nap-Ion; F Tun-Ion.

AUSTRIA-HUNGARY (K. Pattee): A Tri-Tyr;
A Vie S A Tri-Tyr; A Bud-Tri; F Adu
S A Bud-Tri; A Gal-Sil.

TURKEY (Kuch): A Rum holde; F Con-Bla;
A Smy-Arm; F Alb-Gre; F Tyr-Tun;
F Ion S F Tyr-Tun.

Underlined moves are not possible.
The French army in Gascony is annihilated,
and the Austro-Hungarian army in Galicia
retreats by contingent order to Budapest.
The deadline for "Fall 1909" moves is
NOON, SATURDAY 29 OCTOBER 1966. The dead-
line for "Winter 1909" moves is NOON, SAT-
URDAY 5 NOVEMBER 1966.

MUNICH (2 June 1909): The German Gen-
eral Staff recently received a directive
from Berlin ordering the German Armies
East to commence an invasion of Austria-
Hungary. Germany answer the Italian
plea for assistance by attacking the
Austro-Turkish Axis. What has amazed this
commentator is that Wilhelm would even
think of aiding the Italians let

(continued on p. 2)

1966B

"Spring 1904"

DUAL MONARCHY RECOVERS TRIESTE; ENTIRE ITALIAN ARMY IN RETREAT.

Until further notice, Ken Davidson's address is c/o Poste Restante, Copenhagen, Denmark. He will make his next permanent address known as soon as possible. The Medicine Hat address is no longer valid. John McCallum has been authorized by the Gamesmaster to make moves for Davidson unless they are superseded by Davidson's own moves. Similarly, Charles Turner is making Anders Swenson's moves while Swenson is at Ft. Ord.

ENGLAND (Davidson): F Swe-Bal; F North Sea S GERMAN A Hol-Bel; F North Atlantic-Mid; F Eng S F North Atlantic-Mid; F Mid-Wes; A St.P-Mos.

FRANCE (Dygart): A Bur-Ruh; A Bol S A Dur-Ruh; A Pic S A Bol; A Gas-Spa; F Spa-Por; F Bro-Mid.

GERMANY (Turner, vice Swenson): A War S ENGLISH A St.P-Mos; A Sil-Mun; A Kio-Bor; A Hol-Kie; F Don-Kie; A Mun-Bur.

ITALY (Ward): A Tyr S A Tri; A Tri S A Tyr; A Ven-Pio; F Ion-Tun; F Nap-Tyr.

AUSTRIA-HUNGARY (Cline): F Alb-Tri; A Ser, A Vio, & A Bud S F Alb-Tri.

RUSSIA (von Mötzko): F Bal-Don.

TURKEY (Pournelle): A Sev-Mos; A Ukr S A Sev-Mos; A Rum-Gal; F Smy-Eas; F Aeg-Ion; F Adr S F Aeg-Ion.

Underlined moves are not possible. The Italian army in Trieste retreats to Venice. The deadline for "Fall 1904" moves is NOON, SATURDAY 29 OCTOBER 1966. The deadline for "Winter 1904" moves is NOON, SATURDAY 5 NOVEMBER 1966.

ROME: The Government of Tribune Romulus Reagani today announced the signing of a treaty of mutual trade and assistance with Austria at Fiume. Under its terms the Italians are to continue to occupy Trieste for one year to pay occupation costs and then return it to Austria control. The Austrians in turn have signed a mutual assistance pact covering the Mediterranean area.

PALACE OF THE GOLDEN HORN (April 1904): Austria-Hungary having made restitution for her treacherous attack on Turkish territories, the war has been ended with honor on both sides. The new government of Austria has pledged friendship to the Turkish people, and the Sultan has entered a similar agreement with Vienna.

Meanwhile, the fleets of the Faithful press ever westwards to avenge the attack made by Italy on Turkish naval forces.

TRIESTE: The American consul in Trieste, Fiorullo H. LaGuardia, informally gave reporters his reaction to the Austro-Italian treaty signed in Fiume. Looking about at the destruction caused during the Austrian re-occupation of the port city, he said, "Imagine what they would have done if they'd been at war?"

1965Q (continued from p. 1)

alone coming to their assistance. But such is the way of the Germans. They will honor a pledge even should the other break their vows. What will the Italians do now that they have a staunch ally? If they are true to form, they will no doubt attack Germany.

BERLIN (Türkische Presse-Dienst): We will fight to the last Italian to keep Europe pure!

CONSTANTINOPLE: Admiral Ali was fired today (at a passing Italian ship) for deciding between "F Tyr-Tun" and "F Ion-Tun" by the toss of a coin.

MARSEILLES: If the Kaiser doesn't cease his senseless attack on the French Republic we will pull the stopper from the drain of the Atlantic Ocean and, thereby, strand his entire fleet in drydock.

1965F (continued from p. 1)

roncy, all in solid monies, obtained through several means. A run of excellent luck on the Beaucouillon roulette tables, the sale of thirty square kilometres of land to the new American-run "Pleasureland" in Liechtenstein (not, as the name suggests, an adjunct of Disneyland), and a very advantageous sum accrued from the leasing (for 99-year periods with options to renew) of the Emperor's thirty-six mistresses to that same Liechtenstein "Victual Valley", as one crude minister was heard to have put it, combine to place the Austrian sub-nation in its best financial state since the beginning of the war.

Although military operations will probably be curtailed after the present year, subversion and intimidation of the shaky enemies continues. Meanwhile, several well-placed bets on the Dodgers threaten to raise the capabilities of the Habsburg underground even higher.

GRANDE CASINO, BEAUCOULLON (14 May 1908): Count Avino, the "gray eminence" of the tiny Grand Duchy of Beaucouillon, today confirmed rumors that the tottering Austro-Hungarian government had won 15,000 ducats at roulette in the Grand Ducal Bourse. "This was, of course, immediately reflecting in a fall in the odds against Austria-Hungary in the war," he told reporters. "Since word got around Beaucouillon of this coup, the Austro-Hungarian odds fell from 75-1 to 74-1."

BRESLAU (30 May 1908): General Count Oblovoff, commander of the Russian Third Army, today made a triumphal entry into this Silesian city at the head of the army which he has commanded for the past five months. The Count, a tall, handsome, expansive man, told the worried citizens of Breslau that they had nothing to fear from his victorious army. "From the frozen wastes of Galicia we have marched into fertile Silesia to liberate you from the yoke of the German Empire."

"The German Empire collapsed three years ago!" someone shouted from the crowd.

"From the exactions of the Italian invaders, then."

"The Italians ran for the border years ago!"

"Would you believe Liechtenstein?"

"Liechtenstein has been bought by a rich American and converted into a military or -- house of discretion."

"It has? Follow me, my gallant warriors! On to Liechtenstein!"

GRANDE CASINO, BEAUCOULLON (31 May 1908): Prince Pivo, the Italian Ambassador, today denounced a deal whereby the Austro-Hungarian underground government sold 30 square kilometers of Austrian territory to Liechtenstein. "Since, in point of fact, Italy is in military occupation of the Tyrolian region, this alleged sale is null and void and of no force and effect."

VADUZ, LIECHTENSTEIN (4 June 1908): Upon hearing that the Italian Ambassador to Beaucouillon had denounced the sale of a small Austrian border region to Liechtenstein, the Hon. Jasper Pike, Liechtenstein's new owner, issued an ultimatum to the Italian government. "Unless the government in Rome repudiates Prince Pivo's statement," said the wealthy American Ambassador to Beaucouillon, "access to the amenities of Liechtenstein will be cut off to all Italian troops. Our three staff bouncers, who include members of the former Liechtenstein government, will enforce this order. This is nothing new to me. I once had the same trouble when they tried to close down my houses in New York, but after I forbid my Madames to admit members of the Board of Aldermen, the pressure went off fast."

GRANDE CASINO, BEAUCOULLON (6 June 1908): Prince Pivo today formally retracted his statement of 31 May on the recent Austro-Liechtenstein Treaty. "No representative of the Italian government," he said, "would wish to do anything to lower the morale of Italian soldiers. Since the acquisition of new territory will permit the new owner of Liechtenstein better to serve our troops, the Italian government has no objections to the transaction."

VADUZ, LIECHTENSTEIN (9 July 1908): Jasper Pike today announced a recruiting campaign for his new establishment. The campaign was begun after word reached here the Count Oblovoff was leading the Russian Third Army towards Liechtenstein to partake of the local ~~delicious~~ ^{delicious}. "This will unquestionably be the greatest crisis I have ever faced in my years of experience in this business," said Pike. "Oblovoff

is a man of formidable capacity, and at the head of an entire Russian army he will certainly strain Liechtenstein's capacities."

"Capacities!" exclaimed Countess Rubilovsky, Pike's chief Madam. "Is that what they're calling them nowadays?"

GRANDE CASINO, BEAUCOULLON (19 July 1908): For several years Henry Pike, nephew of American Ambassador Jasper Pike, has headed the American Sports and Games division of the Grand Ducal Bourse. This has been an undemanding position, as most of the aristocratic clientele of Beaucouillon seems such plebeian American amusements as the crap tables and the betting lines on baseball.

Now all that is changed. "The Austro-Hungarian underground government bet its 15,000 ducats of roulette winnings on the Brooklyn Dodgers," Henry Pike explained. "The Dodgers haven't won a championship since 1900, and haven't finished in the first division since 1902. Last year they were fifth, and this year they're even worse. They've hit more grounders from Tinker to Evers to Chance than any other team in the National League."

VADUZ, LIECHTENSTEIN (31 July 1908): Jasper Pike and Countess Rubilovsky expressed pleasure at the response for their calls for recruits to meet the threat of the expected Russian invasion. "Particularly gratifying has been the response from Beaucouillon," said the Countess, laying aside a small cigar with a suspicious odor. "This ought to dispel those rumors that I left Beaucouillon on bad terms with dear Cosimo. Why, his own sister, Princess Sonia, has volunteered to help us out. So have Lady Hottham, the Duchess of Ischitbay, Lady Czorny, and other members of the Beaucouillon diplomatic corps."

At that moment Pike rushed in, waving a telegram. "We've got another volunteer from Beaucouillon!" he shouted. "Do you remember Maggie Choates?"

"You mean that Hollywood star who's on her way there to marry Cosimo?"

"Yes. Well, owing to the war, her travel agency routed her through Liechtenstein. She'll be arriving in a couple of days. And she says she particularly wants to meet the famous Count Oblowoff!"

NYCON III - WE GOT IT!

At the 24th World Science-Fiction Convention, held in Cleveland last Labor Day weekend, a group of New York s-f fans succeeded in getting the next WorldCon for New York. The NYCon III will be held at the New York Hilton next Labor Day weekend. Plans are going forward in good order for the banquet, the masked dance, the panels, and our guest of honor, Lester del Rey.

Registrations are now being taken for the NYCon III. The registration fee is \$2.00, and entitles members to vote on the Hugo awards. In addition, there will be an attendance fee of \$.00 for those members who attend the convention. Registrations are being accepted now; fees should be mailed to the 25th World Science Fiction Convention, P. O. Box 367, Gracie Square Station, New York, N. Y. 10028. Checks should be made out either to the Convention or to its treasurer, John Boardman. Registrations may also be mailed directly to the treasurer.

The first progress report on the NYCon III will be mailed out on the beginning of November. Membership cards will also shortly be available. Get your registration in now.

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GAUSTARK, the oldest bulletin of postal Diplomacy, is published by John Boardman, 592 16th Street, Brooklyn, N. Y. 11218, U. S. A. Subscriptions are 10 issues for \$1.00. The following back issues are available at 10¢ each: 44, 46, 48, 50-53, 57, 58, 64, 66, 67, 71, 72, 74-91, 93, 94, 101-105. Issue #100, an especially large issue which includes rules, rosters, and records of postal Diplomacy, is available for 25¢.

A clearinghouse for back issues of postal Diplomacy bulletins is operated by John McCallum, "A" Quarters, S. E. S., Redstone, Alberta, Canada. Contact him if you want to buy, sell, or trade back issues.

THE ADVENTURES OF SECRET AGENT O-O-HATE

Chapter XIII

"Are you sure this is the way to start a counter-revolution?" asked Sir Harley Davidson of Canadian Intelligence. He looked dubiously around the shabby little office below street level on St. Mark's Place, on the Lower East Side of Manhattan.

"Certainly," replied Secret Agent O-O-Hate, who in private life is Clark Gussel, mild-mannered comic book collector from Bugle, Pennsylvania. "Any kind of far-out political movement will receive a hearing here. For example, that button shop next door likes to show off its eclecticism by selling buttons advocating all kinds of patriotic slogans. They have 'Bomb Hanoi', 'Bomb Peiping', and my favorite - 'Kill a Commie for Christ'."

"All right," shrugged the Canadian. "But it seems an unlikely place to recruit counter-revolutionaries against the 1776 National Liberation Front. I would have gone to Park Avenue or Wall Street, where people appreciate the value of an ideology which keeps the commoners in their place."

"They will join us once victory seems likely," O-O-Hate replied. "I anticipate a sizable income from people who want to purchase titles of nobility when the monarchy is restored. But, according to all our best authorities on civil unrest and revolution, a revolution begins when a small handful of intellectuals begin to question the assumptions on which their society is founded. There is no such thing as a legitimate grievance against our Way of Life, but only these malcontents persuading people that they are oppressed. By the Principle of Reversal, the counter-revolution against revolutionary republicanism and towards the time-hallowed doctrine of Absolute Monarchy must follow the same route. And where will you find more malcontented intellectuals than on St. Mark's Place?"

Just then a shaggy creature of indeterminate sex entered the office. He looked up at the huge banner which read "SCRAM - Society Committed to the Restoration of Absolute Monarchy" and below it a quotation which O-O-Hate had selected from his immense library as appropriate to the spirit of their enterprise:

"I could not but speculate upon the moral effects upon his troops of a sovereign's presence in the midst of battle. All else being equal in war between the troops of a republic and an empire, could not this exhilarated mental state, amounting almost to hysteria on the part of the imperial troops, weigh heavily against the soldiers of a president?" - Edgar Rice Burroughs

"You guys taking applications?" their visitor asked.

"Applications - for what?" O-O-Hate said, surprised.

"Why, for king, man! You have an absolute monarchy; who's gonna be your king?"

O-O-Hate and Sir Harley looked at each other. "I knew we forgot something!" O-O-Hate exclaimed.

(Who will be the king if SCRAM succeeds? Can O-O-Hate recruit royalists in the East Village? Follow the further adventures of O-O-Hate in GRAUSTARK.)

THE SHAPE OF GRAUSTARKS TO COME

Since GRAUSTARK took on games 1965F and 1966B two weeks ago, it has been on a weekly schedule. This, for a number of reasons, cannot be continued for too long. Therefore, players in 1965F, 1965G, and 1966B should note that their next "Winter" moves are due only one week after the "Fall" moves which are now coming up. Deadlines for indicated moves of the six GRAUSTARK games are:

#107 (22 October 1966): 1966Q (Spring 1910), 1966R (Winter 1904), 1966AA (Spring 1904).

#108 (29 October 1966): 1965F (Fall 1908), 1965G (Fall 1909), 1966B (Fall 1905).

#109 (5 November 1966): 1965F (Winter 1908), 1965Q (Winter 1909), 1966B (Winter 1905), 1966Q (Fall 1910), 1966R (Spring 1905), 1966AA (Fall 1904).

#110 (19 November 1966): 1965F (Spring 1909), 1965Q (Spring 1910), 1966B (Spring 1906), 1966Q (Winter 1910), 1966R (Fall 1905), 1966AA (Winter 1904).

From here on, GRAUSTARK will revert to its fortnightly schedule. All deadlines are on NOON, Eastern Time, of the indicated date.

STAND-BY PLAYERS

Each postal Diplomacy game in GRAUSTARK now has two stand-by players. If one of the regular players misses his move, the first stand-by will send in a move for that country on the next turn. If the original player misses that move as well, the move submitted by the stand-by will be accepted, and he will take over the play of that country. If this happens, the second stand-by moves up to become first stand-by. Stand-bys are:

1965F: James Sanders, Apt. 5W, 149 W. 108th St., New York, N. Y. 10025
Eugene Prosnitz, 200 Clinton St., Brooklyn, N. Y. 11201

1965Q: James Latimer, Austin Centre, Room 223, Merrimack College, North Andover, Mass. 01845

James Sanders, Apt. 5W, 149 W. 108th St., New York, N. Y. 10025

1966B: James Sanders, Apt. 5W, 149 W. 108th St., New York, N. Y. 10025
Eugene Prosnitz, 200 Clinton St., Brooklyn, N. Y. 11201

1966Q: Conrad von Metzke, 5327 Hilltop Dr., San Diego, Calif. 92114
Michael Vaughn, 390 First Ave., New York, N. Y. 10010

1966R: James Sanders, Apt. 5W, 149 W. 108th St., New York, N. Y. 10025
Eugene Prosnitz, 200 Clinton St., Brooklyn, N. Y. 11201

1966AA: Charles Turner, 843 Santa Fe Ave., Albany, Calif.
James Sanders, Apt. 5W, 149 W. 108th St., New York, N. Y. 10025

MARXISM IN GRAUSTARK

Merged with GRAUSTARK is FREDONIA, a former Diplomacy 'zine which carried reports on 1964B during its progress. Like most postal Diplomacy 'zines, FREDONIA was named after a mythical nation - in this case the central European republic in which the Marx Brothers cavorted in their 1933 picture Duck Soup. A brief account of this film appeared in GRAUSTARK #100. Now, thanks to a new book to which Mike Aita referred me, I am able to correct and amplify this account. The book is The Marx Brothers - Their World of Comedy, a paperback by Allen Eyles.

Eyles regards Duck Soup as the best of their films; "It represents the only occasion that the team were guided by a director with a real genius for comedy: Leo McCarey... (and) the only Marx film to have a completely mythical background: a postage-stamp republic called Freedonia." It is not the earliest film in which the Marxes appear with Margaret Dumont; it is simply the earliest such film which I had seen. Groucho, on the center of the stage ("It might seem too absurd if Groucho were President of the U. S. A.; there is no difficulty in accepting him as the leader of a mythical country.") manages to start a war between Freedonia and neighboring Sylvania despite a desire for peace on the part of both countries - a satire on the grim business of real-life diplomacy and what C. Wright Mills called "crackpot realism". The Sylvanian Ambassador Trentino is played by Louis Calhern; though not wishing war, he is trying to bend Groucho to his will by means of a beautiful female spy played by Raquel Torres. In the end of the film, Trentino is taken prisoner by the four Marxes and subjected to a firing squad of ripe apples.

Eyles describes the mirror scene as one of many in the Marx Brothers films which raise a crisis of identity. Mockery of pomposity, and crises of identity, are the dominant themes of the films. Eyles even compares Groucho's con-man technique to that of the late Joseph McCarthy, pointing out in an aside that two of McCarthy's sidekicks, Urban F. Van Susteren and Otis Comillion, sound like they might be names taken by Groucho Marx in his film roles.

THE DIPLOMATIC POUCH

CONRAD VON METZKE, 5327 Hilltop Dr., San Diego, Calif. 92114: To John Reinor: I am quite pleased to see your objective attitude on the International Diplomacy Federation. Personally, I think many of your points were valid, but the whole question is rather moot now that the ratification has failed.

This is

To James Wright: As usual, your hilarious letter pointed out that you really don't understand what the IDF was trying to do. Maybe it's just as well - if we had to have opposition, the best kind is that which says nothing and yet fills up all the available space.

O At
P Great
E Intervals
R This
A Appears
T To
I Inflame
O Optic
N Nerves

ROD WALKER, FV 3 129 356, TUSLOC Det. #183, APO New York, N. Y. 09254: I am very glad that you are going to curtail political discussions in GRAUSTARK. While they are very interesting, people tend to get bitter about them, because they tend to believe that what they think is reality is, in truth, what's happening. In politics, particularly, that is a very foolish belief. Furthermore, most discussion on the subject, say, of Vietnam...are neither sober nor very rational. And even those who are best informed on the subject are by no means unanimous in their opinions. You have meticulously printed both sides; but the result has more often been an evil-tempered shouting match than anything which I would care to label a "discussion". I have not noticed that a pooling of mutual ignorance tends to produce any enlightenment.

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What is James Wright's problem? From the way he's reacted to the IDF you'd think it was the antichrist or something. He's gotten so worked up over it that any day, now, I expect a revelation that the IDF is part of the ICC (International Conformist conspiracy) (International Catholic Clique) (International Cogwheel Club) (something) or maybe personally recommended by B. L. Zebub, Esq., himself. However, all this heat and angry motion is caused because, in his opinion, the thing is unnecessary. So are coffee, electricity, and western civilization - we could live without those, too. However, being unnecessary is no great evil, and I really wish that he would provide a more lucid discussion than previously; since I'm sure he's capable of it. No one was ever harmed by a little constructive, rational criticism.

I want, however, to second very loudly Mr. Wright's observations about rating systems. I liked the idea at first, but his argument concerning gang-ups is a good one. There are people in Diplomacy whose minds work in that fashion, unfortunately, so that propositions that run "let's get so-and-so because he wins a lot" are not uncommon in this game. I wish it were otherwise, because I, personally, play for the fun of it rather than to set any new and startling record. In fact, a rating system is unfair to all players because it becomes an additional element in the conduct of the game.

In any event, I doubt that a rating system could be developed which could be completely fair to all persons, and there would be a tendency to "play for the record", which I would find most contrary to the spirit of the game.

I did, by the way, work on a system which might be a pretty fair one - it took your center-years and divided by the total number of years, then added in bonus points, similar to Reinsel's system, for winning, staying in until the end, staying in more than 10 years, and (a negative score) for being eliminated within the first five years. It proved to be so complicated I gave up the idea.

JAMES LATIMER, Austin Centre, Room 223, Merrimack College, North Andover, Mass. 01845: I hope you're going to stop "O-O-Hate". Your ((sic)) getting your licks in without giving other people a rebuttal. Your nag. I can only ask you to do this.

((The political discussions are out of the letter-column, but the Adventures of Secret Agent O-O-Hate stay. They are no more out of place in GRAUSTARK than are

Rod Walker's hilarious "Chronicles of req-lav" in Erechyon - whose publication, incidentally, is now being resumed. If newspapers with circulations in the hundreds of thousands can speak critically about "Vietniks" and "poasniks", then there can be nothing wrong in satirizing the activities of a gang of war queers in the pages of a journal whose circulation is about 70. Anyone who feels he is being unjustly satirized can always respond in the pages of his own 'zine.))

THEN, SOME PEOPLE PLAY DIPLOMACY OVER THE BOARD...

And for those who do, a group of Diplomacy players meets regularly at the home of Eugene Prosnitz, 200 Clinton St., Brooklyn, N. Y. 11201. Any Diplomacy fan in greater New York who would like to join these sessions is invited to telephone Gene at UL 5-0089 and ask for details.

Earl Thompson announces that there will be a Diplomacy tournament held at the 20th WesterCon, a regional gathering of science-fiction fans which will be held on Fourth of July weekend next year in Los Angeles. Convention membership is \$2.00 from Earl Thompson, Apt. #2, 128 S. Mariposa Ave., Los Angeles, Calif. 90004. The convention will take place on 1-4 July 1967 at the Sheraton West. One room of the hotel will be devoted to the Diplomacy tournament, for which there will be a slight additional games fee. Dan Alderson will be Gamesmaster, and will publish the tournament games for later distribution to the participants.

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For postal Diplomacy players, a new bulletin is out: Sorsair, published by Bob Speed, 1610 Johnston St., Richland, Wash. 99352. The progress of postal Diplomacy game 1966AW (see GRAUSTARK #104 for roster) is recounted in it. Speed is charging 5¢ a copy to local Diplomacy players; if you subscribe, better make it 10¢ a copy.

Charles Alexander, Apt. #1, 714 E. University, Ann Arbor, Mich. 48103, has announced the founding of Diplomacy variants beginning in the Italy of 1500, and in the Europe of 1650. They will be run by letter; interested persons should contact him. His fee for map and rules is 25¢.

Leonard Garland, 4075 3rd Ave., San Diego, Calif. 92103 has sent out a flier promoting a political game comparable to Charles Wells's Parliament. Details on request.

GRAUSTARK #106
John Boardman
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U. S. A.



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